

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01436 100049Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 W
-----100134Z 094806 /63
P 100036Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2737
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL
ALL OTHER AMCONSULS CANADA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 01436

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CA
SUBJ: LIBERALS TOP TORIES IN POLL

GALLUP POLL, PUBLISHED MARCH 9, HAS REPORTED THAT LIBERAL PARTY HAS GAINED LEAD IN POPULARITY OVER CONSERVATIVES FOR FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN YEAR. 41 PERCENT OF DECIDED VOTERS FAVORED THE LIBERALS, A GAIN OF FOUR POINTS OVER LAST MONTH. CONSERVATIVES DROPPED TO 35 PERCENT, FROM 45 PERCENT POSITION IN JANUARY. NDP SLIPPED FROM 17 TO 16 PERCENT, AND 35 PERCENT WERE UNDECIDED. THIS POSITION OF PARTIES IS RELATIVELY CLOSE TO THAT HELD BY THEM AT TIME OF LAST GENERAL ELECTION IN JULY 1974. QUESTION ASKED WAS: "IF A FEDERAL ELECTION WERE HELD TODAY, WHICH PARTY'S CANDIDATE DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD FAVOR?" POLL WAS TAKEN A WEEK AFTER QUEBEC PREMIER LEVESQUE'S SPEECH IN NEW YORK AND SHORTLY AFTER PM TRUDEAU SPOKE TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN QUEBEC CITY.

EARLY PRESS REPORTS QUOTE CONSERVATIVE PARTY MEMBERS AS BEING "SHOCKED" BY RESULTS OF POLL, AND ONE CONSERVATIVE MP CLAIMED PC LEADER JOE CLARK COULD NO LONGER ASSUME HE WOULD BE NEXT PRIME MINISTER. NATURALLY, LIBERALS WERE ELATED, AND SPECULATION ONCE MORE APPEARED REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF SPRING ELECTION.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 01436 100049Z

COMMENT: WHILE CONSERVATIVE GLOM AND LIBERAL ELATION ARE WARRANTED, IT IS STILL NECESSARY TO PUT POLL IN PERSPECTIVE. MAIN THING PROVED IS HOW UNSETTLED OPINION IS IN CANADA AT THIS TIME, AND HOW VARIOUS EVENTS RELATED TO SEPARATION OF QUEBEC CAN BRING WIDE SWINGS IN PUBLIC VIEWS. NEVERTHELESS, THE POSITIVE SIGNS FOR THE LIBERALS WILL SURELY GIVE THEM NEW VIGOR, AND CONSERVATIVES WILL

PRESUMABLY HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER PRESENT TACTICS SHOULD BE
CONTINUED, OR WHETHER CLARK SHOULD BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE BOTH IN
PROGRAM AND IN PRESENTING PARTY AS STRONG ALTERNATIVE IN FUTURE.
ENDERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OTTAWA01436
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0884
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770373/aaaacmky.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 92fb3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3150389
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERALS TOP TORIES IN POLL GALLUP POLL, PUBLISHED MARCH 9, HAS REPORTED THAT LIBERAL PARTY HAS GAINED LEAD IN POPULARITY OVER CONSERVAT
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/92fb3dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009